

(203)



JAN 27 1953

Dr. Julius A. Stratton, President
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Cambridge 37, Massachusetts

Dear Dr. Stratton:

Regarding your request to be kept informed of any progress in the problem of "unidentified flying objects," this letter will bring you up to date.

Last December, the section of the Air Technical Intelligence Center charged with investigation of reports of sightings presented a status briefing at the Agency. Based upon the evidence presented, the subject was discussed at a December meeting of the Intelligence Advisory Committee (CIA, Army, Navy, Air Forces, Joint Staff, State, SEC, and FBI). At that time it was recommended that CIA should assemble a panel of highly qualified personnel to examine the problem and its ramifications. Particular competency in the fields of physics, radar and astronomy was believed desirable.

We were fortunate to obtain the services of especially qualified men, I believe you will agree. Enclosed for your information are copies of the report submitted by the Panel and related material. We concur in the conclusions and recommendations of the Panel, and are forwarding the report to appropriate authorities. Since the problems related to this subject appear to be operational rather than intelligence in nature, we will be concerned only indirectly in the future. However, if there are any developments in which we believe you might be interested, we shall inform you. Initially, knowledge of any interest of CIA in the subject of "flying saucers" has been carefully restricted, in view of possible misunderstanding if it were publicly known.

With best wishes,

Yours truly,

Sgt. M. Marshall Chedwell
R. Marshall Chedwell
Assistant Director

Enclosures:

1. Panel Report
2. List of Personnel
3. Evidence presented

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Signed: H. Marshall Chadwell
H. Marshall Chadwell
Assistant Director

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1. Panel Report
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Distribution:

Boston Office
OO/C, [REDACTED]
OSI [REDACTED] (37Jan53)

With Enclosures - 1
no enclosures - 1

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203

Letter Office, P.D. Division, CI
At 1000:00 GCT, 2 January, 1963 (continued, SI)
Lt. Col. R. C. L. Kier, CI Branch

27 January 1963

Missions of CI Advisory Group on Unidentified Flying Objects,
14-17 January 1963

2. At your request I represented P.D. Division at the subject meetings. I was present at nearly all meetings of the group with the exception of the afternoon of Friday, the 13th and the session on Security, the 27th. During the latter two sessions the Advisory Group went into executive session for the preparation of their report to AD/CI.

3. The following COI consultants formed the Advisory Group:

Dr. H. S. Robertson, Chairman

Dr. Sam Bonnard

Dr. Gordon Lyle

Dr. Thornton Page (missed morning session on 15th)

Dr. Floyd Bellair (present only on afternoon of 15th and 17th)

Dr. J. A. Scott (an ADIC consultant - he sat in all the sessions after the first day, but did not sign the report to AD/CI as an official group member)

4. The following COI staff members attended:

Mr. H. J. Chappell (most of the first day only)

Mr. P. O. Strong (first day only)

Mr. F. C. Gray (although not an COI consultant, he

functioned as a staff member for the conference

and attended all sessions involving the executive sessions

Mr. E. B. Cowerton, Research Division

Lt. Col. R. C. L. Kier, P.D. Division

Release

5. The following persons were invited to present certain background information to the Advisory Group:

Captain Lillard R. Yule, ADIC who presented information on the work of Project Bluebook (and its predecessors "Project", "Senior", and "Twin") and discussed in detail many of their specific investigations.

Major George A. Dill (by now on inactive status and with the MCpl Corp.) who presented similar information of ADIC, representatives of the Navy Photoographic Lab who presented their analysis of films of a "Bigdine."

Action Office, FBI Division, SI
21 South Clark, 2nd Floor, P. O. Box 1000, SI
[Mr. Col. H. C. L. West, FBI Branch]

27 January 1963

Meetings of OSI Advisory Group on Unidentified Flying Objects,
14-17 January 1963

1. At your request I represented FBI Division at the subject meetings. I was present at nearly all meetings of the group with the exception of the afternoon of Friday, the 13th and the session on Saturday, the 27th. During the latter two sessions the Advisory Group went into executive session for the preparation of their report to AD/FBI.

2. The following OSI Consultants formed the Advisory Group:

Dr. H. P. Morrison, Chairman

Dr. Sam Goodwin

Dr. Louis Silverstein

Dr. Thornton Page (missed morning session on 16th)

Dr. Lloyd Penner (present only on afternoon of 15th and 17th)

Dr. J. A. Fink (an ADIS consultant - he sat in all the sessions after the first day, but did not sign the report to AD/FBI as an official group member)

3. The following OSI staff members attended:

Dr. H. H. Chappell (rest of the first day only)

Mrs. P. G. Stump (first day only)

Mr. F. C. Dickey (although now an OSI consultant, he

functioned as a staff member for the conference and attended all sessions including the executive sessions

Mr. E. B. Stevenson, Response Division

Mr. Col. H. C. L. West, FBI Division

Release

b. The following persons were invited to present certain background information to the Advisory Group:

Captain Edward R. Hale, ADIS who presented information on the work of Capt. Richard (and his predecessors "Hawkeye", "Seaver", and "Kirk") and discussed in detail many of their specific investigations.

Major Thomas J. Dunn (by now an inactive status and with the ADIS Dept.) also presented details in support of ADIS representatives of the Navy photographic Area who presented their analysis of films of a "Nighthawk."

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Original

5. The flight business on the ground was approached by and a charge (Mr. H. L.) to the Army by Mr. Gandy. This was followed by a statement of the FBI interest by Mr. Strong. It had been requested by FBI to look into the "flying saucer" incident because of their related national security problem; (a) possible exploitation to produce man-made steria, (b) the confirmations and denials inherent in observations of "flying saucers" by the U.S. radar and observer stations, (c) the existence of "flying saucer reports" overloading the emergency communication facilities of the Department of Defense.

6. Because of the quality of the consultants and the excellence of their introduction to the subject by Mr. Gandy and Mr. Strong, the Advisory Group never lost sight of the goals inspite of the fact that the discussion took many excursions.

7. The Advisory Group submitted its report to AC/SCI on 27 January 1953. Their principal finding was that at the present time the unidentified flying objects pose no threat to the security of the United States. They recommended the establishment of programs of education regarding the sightings particularly as concerns the U.S. radar and observer system, not for the general public as well.

8. Most of the FBI files on this subject are being reviewed in the office of the FBI Weapons Division has a considerable file which according to Mr. Gandy they would like to dispose of because of the findings of the Advisory Group that "flying saucers" pose no present threat to the United States security. Mr. Gandy feels that the material in the Weapons Division file should be retained in one of the substantive divisions of FBI and has suggested that the Division whom ever can retain them. Mr. Gandy of Weapons Division currently has the material and estimates that several hours per week will be required to keep it current. He indicates that he is investigating to Mr. James, Chief of Weapons Division, that FBI Division not the Files. I would like to suggest that the Acting Director, FBI Division discuss this with Mr. Gandy. I personally don't see why FBI Division has any greater interest in this material than Weapons Division.

9. If CP Branch, FBI Division is given the responsibility for the files mentioned in paragraph 8, above, one (1) additional staff will be required.

Review
FBI WASH C. H. DASH
Lt. Colonel, USAF

FWD:cc

cc: Ordn. & I - Div. Off.

1 - DIV

1 - GPF

1 - Ordn. Inst.

[REDACTED]

CHARGE TO O/SI ADVISORY GROUP ON UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS

1. To review available evidence on unidentified flying objects and to consider possible dangers to national security related thereto.
2. To advise concerning the amount and kind of data necessary for a scientific evaluation of these phenomena.
3. In particular to comment on:
 - a. Validity of current CIA evaluation of related dangers.
 - b. Methodology and scope of current and planned AFIC investigation.
 - c. Feasibility of further meetings of this group or further review of the subject by a larger panel.

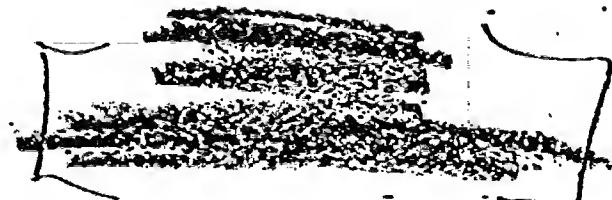
POSSIBLE EXPLANATIONS

- A. Hysteria, hallucinations, hoaxes, etc. (Psychological)
- B. Misidentifications of conventional objects:
 - 1. Aircraft, missiles, searchlight reflections, etc. (man-made, controlled)
 - 2. Balloons, kites, etc. (man-made, uncontrolled)
 - 3. Birds, bugs, etc. (animal)
 - 4. Dust, seeds (e.g. dandelion), paper, etc. (foreign matter)
- C. Natural Phenomena:
 - 1. Light alterations, reflections, refractions, etc.
 - 2. Anomalous radar propagation.
 - 3. Ionization, static electricity, ball lightning, etc.
 - 4. Planets, meteors and other astronomical bodies.
 - 5. Others.
- D. Unconventional man-made devices:
 - 1. US
 - 2. USSR and other foreign
- E. Extraterrestrial origin

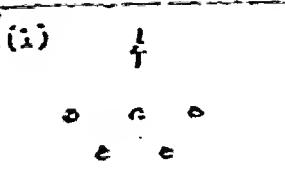
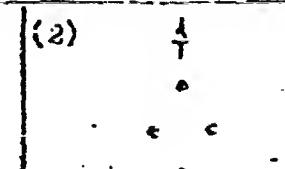
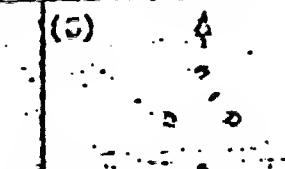
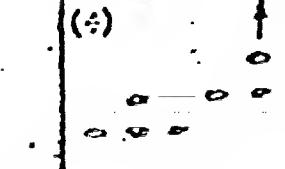
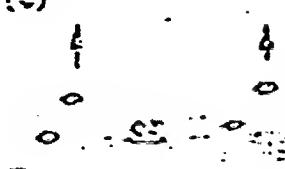
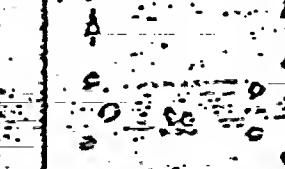
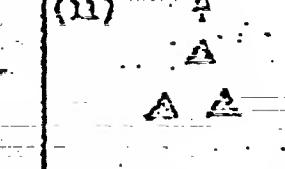
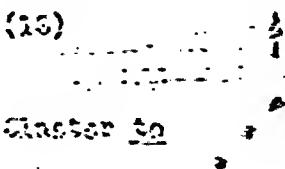
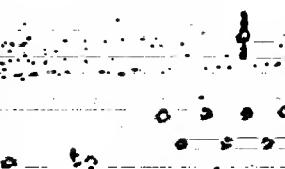
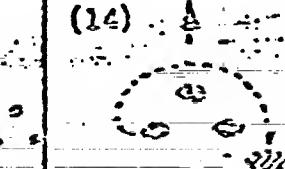
1. Animal

2. Machine

Basis of M&O (Review on 16 Jan.)



TOEFL TESTS

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
			
(2 in row directed around in circular or zig-zag motion)	(all objects had a starting position from side to side)		
(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
			
(preposition)		(preposition)	(preposition)
(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)
.2 in general trail formation (trailing object varied position)	3 objects (one in formation not specific)		
(postposition)		(postposition)	(postposition)
(13)	(14)	(15)	
			
(postposition)			
(16)	(17)		
3 objects, one above other 2 objects			
			